



STUDENT MEETING ON AUGUST 5

ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON, August 5, Student Members of the Academy will meet in Room 214, Simson African Hall, at 2:00 o'clock. Dr. Robert C. Miller, Director of the California Academy of Sciences, will speak on the subject, "Natural History Collections—How We Make Them and Why." Dr. Miller's talk will be illustrated with motion pictures taken on several expeditions.

Everyone interested is invited to attend.

MISS CORNELIA C. PRINGLE
1816 VALLEJO STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 23

[4]



SECTION 562 PL. & R.

ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

Number 56

August, 1944



PRONGHORN ANTELOPE GROUP IN NORTH AMERICAN HALL

Published Monthly by
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO



August Announcement

THE REGULAR AUGUST MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in the Assembly Room (third floor) of the San Francisco Public Library on Wednesday evening, August 2, 1944, at 7:30 o'clock. The speaker of the evening will be Mr. Adan E. Treganza, who will take as his subject:

PREHISTORIC INDIAN MINES AND QUARRIES IN CALIFORNIA

Mr. Treganza will present a general sketch of California Indian culture, and will discuss the Indian as a prospector, petrographer, chemist, physicist, and geologist; his mining and quarrying methods and tools; and the social and economic significance of mining among the Indians. The speaker, a graduate student of Anthropology at the University of California, has done extensive field work in his investigation of the prehistoric Indian mines and quarries of the state. He will have maps showing the distribution of all the known Indian mining localities, and will present other illustrative material.

The public is cordially invited to hear Mr. Treganza.



APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its meeting on July 20, 1944, approved the applications of Mr. H. Clair Cantelow, Mrs. Rudolph C. Fink, and Dr. Thomas H. Kearney for MEMBERSHIP, and of Mr. William Russell for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after July 31 they will be considered elected.



THE PRONGHORN ANTELOPE

THE PRONGHORN ANTELOPE (*Antilocarpa americana*) formerly ranged in immense numbers over the plains and valleys of North America west of the Mississippi River from Mexico to Canada.

In California great herds ranged throughout the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys and in other valleys to the north, east and south. As a result of persistent persecution and slaughter for their hides and meat these animals have in most parts of their range been entirely wiped out. In southeastern Oregon, northwestern Nevada, and northeastern California, they are, however, now fairly common as a result of careful protection.

The Pronghorn is characteristically an animal of open country, as a rule avoiding forested or high mountain regions. Enemies are generally detected through the remarkable powers of sight which these animals possess, and the herds seek safety in flight. Their ability to run exceeds that of any other native North American mammal.

The Pronghorn is the only member of the hollow-horned animals which annually sheds its horns. Only the outer shell or sheath is shed, however, and not the entire horn as in the deer and elk.

The habitat group depicted on page 1, which is one of the attractive exhibits in the Academy's Hall of North American Mammals, represents a scene in Modoc County, California, looking toward the Warner Mountains.



ACADEMY BECOMES HEADQUARTERS OF FUCHSIA SOCIETY

THE AMERICAN FUCHSIA SOCIETY at a recent meeting took action designating the California Academy of Sciences as the official headquarters of the Society.



ACADEMY'S LIBRARIAN HONORED

DR. CHARLES H. DANFORTH, Librarian of the California Academy of Sciences and Professor of Anatomy in Stanford University, was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society at the annual meeting of that organization recently held in Philadelphia.

The American Philosophical Society Held at Philadelphia for Promoting Useful Knowledge is the oldest scientific association in North America. It was founded largely through the efforts of Benjamin Franklin, who served as its president from 1769 until his death in 1790. He was succeeded by David Rittenhouse. The third president of the Society was Thomas Jefferson. The organization is national in scope and includes all departments of learning. Its *Transactions* date from 1771 and its *Proceedings* from 1838.